

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 06832 282126Z
ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /027 W
-----122717 282130Z /72

P 282123Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO USLO PEKING PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4277
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 06832

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SEDU, CH, CA
SUBJECT: "FOREIGN EXPERTS" IN CHINA

REF: USLO PEKING 1453

1. HIGGINBOTHAM, CHINESE DESK OFFICER, MIN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (EXTAFF), TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER JULY 28 THAT EXTAFF WAS UNAWARE THAT "MANY" CANADIAN STUDENTS COMPLETING STUDIES ARE RECEIVING EMPLOYMENT OFFERS FROM FOREIGN EXPERTS BUREAU (REFTEL). HE UNDERSTOOD THAT, SINCE CANADA-PRC EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENT SIGNED IN 1973, PERHAPS 6 OF THE ROUGHLY 80 CANADIAN EXCHANGE STUDENTS HAD GDNE TO WORK FOR THE BUREAU AND THAT UNTIL FAIRLY RECENTLY RECRUITMENT HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT ON LOW-KEY BASIS WITH IDEOLOGICALLY PURE FOREIGNERS MAKING INTEREST KNOWN, PERHAPS THROUGH PRC EMBASSIES, AND EVENTUALLY WINDING UP IN PRC. HE HEARD, HOWEVER, THAT RECRUITMENT METHODS MAY HAVE CHANGED RECENTLY AND, FOR EXAMPLE, THE PRC HAS ADVERTISED IN AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPER FOR BUREAU RECRUITS.

2. HIGGINBOTHAM SAID THAT PRC HAS MADE CONCERTED EFFORT TO KEEP FOREIGN EXPERTS AWAY FROM PEKING DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY AND ADDED IMPRESSION THAT FOREIGN EXPERTS LEAD RATHER
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"TATTY" EXISTENCE, NEITHER FULLY ACCEPTED BY CHINESE NOR IN CONTACT WITH DIPLOMATS.

3. IN HIS VIEW, USLO PEKING PROBABLY KNOWS MORE ABOUT FOREIGN EXPERTS BUREAU THAN EXTAFF DOES. ENDERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977OTTAWA06832
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770271-0257
Format: TEL
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977079/aaaaahlr.tel
Line Count: 60
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Office: ACTION INR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1959628
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: \"FOREIGN EXPERTS\" IN CHINA
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SEDU, CH, CA
To: PEKING
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5ccfb370-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009